

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
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O R 291250Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1252
INFO USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
RUEHOHKKXAMEMBASSY OTTAWA 149
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
USCINCEUR
CINCUSAREUR
USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 4369

USCINCEUR FOR POLAD; CINCUSAREUR FOR POLAD; USNMR SHAPE FOR POLAD

DEPT PASS DOD FOR JCS
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FOR EUR/RPM, EUR/SOV
FROM USDEL CSCE

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE
SUBJ: CSCE/CBM'S: NEW PROPOSALS

REF: (A) USNATO 5968, (B) USNATO 5949 (NOTAL)

1. WHILE USDEL CSCE HAS NOT UP TO NOW INVOLVED ITSELF IN SUBSTANCE OF ALLIED CONSULTATIONS ON ISSUES TO BE RAISED DURING THE MAIN MEETING NEXT FALL, WE BELIEVE IT IS INCREASINGLY DESIRABLE FOR THOSE CONSULTATIONS TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION FACTORS WHICH ARE PECULIAR TO THE NEGOTIATING SITUATION IN BELGRADE. FOR THIS REASON, WE PLAN TO COMMENT FROM TIME TO TIME ON THE SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS BEING CARRIED OUT AT NATO OR ELSEWHERE, IN ORDER TO CONTRIBUTE THE KNOWLEDGE AND INSIGHTS WHICH WE HAVE GAINED IN CONTACT WITH OTHER DELEGATIONS IN BELGRADE.

2. WE ARE PARTICULARLY CONCERNED AT THIS TIME WITH THE ALLIED APPROACH TO NEW PROPOSALS, ESPECIALLY IN THE CBM FIELD. WE HAVE BEEN IMPRESSED SINCE ARRIVING IN BELGRADE WITH THE STRENGTH OF THE DESIRE BY ALMOST ALL DELEGATIONS HERE TO AVOID CHANGING THE FINAL ACT. THIS IS A VIRTUALLY THEOLOGICAL RULE, AND ALTHOUGH THE AGENDA FOR THE MAIN MEETING WHICH IS EVENTUALLY ADOPTED BY THE PREPARATORY MEETING WILL PROBABLY VARY FROM THE FINAL ACT IN SOME DETAILS, THE GREAT MAJORITY OF DELEGATIONS HERE STRONGLY RESIST ANY SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES IN FINAL ACT FORMULATIONS, EVEN IN SOME CASES WHEN SUCH CHANGES COULD BE TO THEIR ADVANTAGE.
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3. WE BELIEVE THAT, IF THE U.S. AND THE ALLIES ARE TO ENTER THE MAIN MEETING WITH NEW PROPOSALS WHICH WILL BE DEFENSIBLE AND HAVE SOME CHANCE OF SUCCESS, THIS KEY FACTOR MUST BE TAKEN CAREFULLY INTO ACCOUNT. IT APPLIES TO NEW PROPOSALS IN ALL BASKETS, BUT HAS PARTICULAR RELEVANCE FOR CBM PROPOSALS WHICH WOULD HAVE THE EFFECT OF ALTERING THE EXISTING CBM PARAMETERS--THOSE RELATING TO NOTIFICATION OF MILITARY MANEUVERS. NOWHERE IN THE FINAL ACT ARE PROVISIONS SO SPECIFIC, AND NOWHERE WOULD CHANGES BE MORE OBVIOUS.

4. ANOTHER IMPORTANT FACTOR WHICH SHOULD BE BORNE IN MIND IS THE EXPECTED TIMEFRAME OF THE BELGRADE MEETING. IF WE EXPECT TO NEGOTIATE NEW PROPOSALS DURING THE THREE-MONTH PERIOD ANTICIPATED FOR THE MAIN MEETING, THESE PROPOSALS SHOULD BE SUFFICIENTLY ACCEPTABLE--OR SUFFICIENTLY GENERAL--TO PERMIT REASONABLY QUICK ADOPTION BY ALL CSCE PARTICIPANTS. HERE AGAIN, THIS IS PARTICULARLY TRUE IN THE MILITARY AREA, WHERE DETAILED COMMITMENTS REQUIRE METICULOUS COORDINATION AND CONSIDERATION BY GOVERNMENTS.

5. THE SWEDES HAVE CLEARLY TAKEN THESE FACTORS INTO
ACCOUNT IN DEVELOPING THEIR DRAFT CBM RESOLUTION FOR
THE MAIN MEETING (REF B). THIS PROPOSAL PROBABLY
REPRESENTS ABOUT WHAT THE TRAFFIC WILL BEAR IN CSCE,
AND WE SHOULD BEAR THIS IN MIND IN CONSIDERING
WHETHER TO PUT FORWARD CBM PROPOSALS WHICH ARE
SIGNIFICANTLY MORE AMBITIOUS THAN THE SWEDISH DRAFT.
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